

University of North Carolina Wilmington **magazine**

SPRING 2010

UNCW



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UNCW

Spring 2010
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On the cover:

University of North Carolina Wilmington sophomore and Marine Corps veteran Allison Westpfahl transitioned directly from the military to college life. The 25-year-old veteran is one of the many military-affiliated students who have chosen to attend UNCW.

Photo and Illustration by UNCW/Jason Barnette

UNCW/Jamie Moncrief

The student section cheers as the UNC Wilmington Seahawks battled the Towson Tigers at Trask Coliseum during the 2010 Homecoming game.



Dear alumni and friends,

Throughout the spring semester, I couldn't help but be reminded about how very much you care about the University of North Carolina Wilmington. I saw hundreds of you return to participate in homecoming and numerous other events, programs, performances, games and lectures held on campus this spring. Thank you for your involvement and dedication to UNCW.

I know you share my pride in all that our students, faculty and staff accomplished, despite significant budget reductions. Unfortunately, additional state budget reductions are possible and the impact of more cuts will affect the quality of the UNCW experience. We could use your help in reminding legislators that North Carolina's economic future depends on keeping our universities strong.

This issue of *UNCW Magazine* is packed with information that I know you will enjoy. A quick review of the "Campus Digest" provides you with updates about UNCW students, faculty and programs. Brinkley Hutchings '11 went to Copenhagen to participate in global climate talks, assistant music professor Jerald Shynett was nominated for a Grammy, and the creative writing program earned more national accolades.

Read about our latest Athletics Hall of Fame inductees, our new men's basketball and women's basketball coaches, the men's swimming and diving team who won their ninth straight CAA title.

The magazine's features delve into the thriving area of club sports and our programs and services for military students. You'll see why *G.I. Jobs* included UNCW on its national list of "military-friendly" schools.

Your contributions to our university are celebrated in "Giving Matters," while the alumni pages commemorate homecoming and our alumni association award winners, Bill Saffo '83, Lee Grant '00 and Walter Pancoe. The alumni section includes information about upcoming events and opportunities for you to be involved with UNCW. Finally, find out who has a new job, new spouse or new child in Alumnnotes.

As spring turns into summer at UNCW, we're making long-term plans for the university's future. Your thoughts about UNCW's Vision 2020 are very important to us and the future of our campus. Please share your ideas and suggestions with us by e-mailing me at chancellor@uncw.edu. You're a big part of the Seahawk spirit that makes our campus unique, and I appreciate everything you do for the university.

With warmest wishes,



Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo

P.S. Philanthropic gifts to UNCW are always meaningful to our students, faculty and staff. I'm very grateful to all of our donors for your support. If you haven't contributed this fiscal year, there's still time. Please visit www.uncw.edu/giveonline by June 30.

in novation

by LaTacheé Howard '10



closer
reaching out
volunteerism
leadership
education tradition
challenge



Photo courtesy Robert Roer/UNCW Graduate School

ST. CROIX FACILITY ONE STEP CLOSER

UNCW is part of a consortium that received a \$1.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Interior for the proposed \$54 million Salt River Bay Marine Research and Education Center (MREC) on St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The center will support coral reef exploration, research and conservation, K-12 education and residential learning experiences for college students. UNCW has been at the forefront of this project for the past 10 years and has more than 22 faculty members involved in Caribbean research through its Center for Marine Science.

"This grant is another major step in our long march to establish a marine research and educational facility and program on St. Croix," said Bob Wicklund, UNCW's director of federal programs.

The money will be used to develop design concepts for the MREC facility.

www.uncw.edu/research/StCroix.html

REACHING OUT TO THE WORLD

A \$168,000 matching grant from the U.S. Department of Education will enable the UNCW Cameron School of Business to help local businesses, professionals and students become more competitive in the increasingly global economy.

The Global Business Initiative program in the Swain Center for Business and Economic Services will provide funding for overseas internships for business students and help faculty strengthen and expand the International M.B.A. program, as well as launch a training program leading to the internationally recognized Certified Global Business Professional designation.

"We already have helped one local small business find new distributors and potential customers in Africa and will soon begin working with a second local exporter. We've launched our speaker series and published the first in a series of articles on international business issues," said Joe Dougherty, director of the UNCW Global Business Initiative.

"The idea is to strengthen our interaction with the global economy, which can both create jobs and ensure that local professionals and UNCW students are fully capable of taking on those jobs successfully."

NATIONALLY RANKED M.F.A. PROGRAM

UNCW's 15-year-old creative writing program again is getting national recognition.

In its November/December issue, *Poets & Writers* ranked the Master of Fine Arts program 24th overall among the 140 full residency M.F.A. programs in the United States. Creative nonfiction was ranked fifth, poetry was ranked 22nd and fiction ranked 25th.

Seth Abramson, the author of the article said, "Any school whose numerical ranking is in the top 50 in any of the ranked categories should be considered exceptional in that category."

UNCW M.F.A. program students and alumni have published more than 30 books and dozens of shorter works; core faculty have published more than 50 books, as well as hundreds of shorter pieces.

ARTS EDUCATION GETS KENNEDY CENTER BOOST

UNCW Office of Cultural Arts and New Hanover County Schools were one of the 14 teams nationwide selected to attend the Partners in Education Institute May 5-8 at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.

"The partnership has allowed us to provide high quality arts education experiences for students and teachers. Participation in the institute will give us even more resources to draw upon in providing professional development in the arts for New Hanover County teachers," said Courtney Reilly, assistant director of UNCW's Office of Cultural Arts.

Georgeann Haas, arts education supervisor for NHCS, and Brenda Wheat, assistant professor in the Watson School of Education, joined her in Washington.

UNCW is involved in two major arts outreach programs:

- ARTworks is an initiative of the UNCW Arts in Education Alliance, a partnership between Office of Cultural Arts and the Watson School of Education, which brings the arts to area elementary schools through free performances, arts integration curriculum guides, professional

development workshops and in-school artist residencies.

- The Technical Assistance Program for Public Schools is a new initiative of the Office of Cultural Arts to enhance the performing arts in area schools by providing on-site consultation, training, resources and creative and technical assistance for drama teachers and students.

www.kennedy-center.org/educationpartners

A TRADITION OF VOLUNTEERISM

Amber Wilson '08 believes in public service, and she puts that belief into practice. This spring, she continued to help people as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic.

For **Jeff Rose '00, '06M**, the Peace Corps led to his position as executive director of the Wilmington-based international assistance agency, Full Belly Project, which received international attention for its work in providing rural African farmers with technology to increase their harvests and income.

Because of alumni like them, UNCW is ranked 25th among medium-sized schools nationwide for producing Peace Corps volunteers. Since the Peace Corps was founded in 1961, 123 UNCW alumni have volunteered; currently 20 are serving around the world.

UNCW is one of only three North Carolina schools on the list, which also includes UNC Chapel Hill and Elon University, and is the only N.C. school represented on the list of medium-sized institutions.

In addition, for the fourth straight year, UNCW was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. In 2009, more than 4,700 students contributed more than 51,000 hours to volunteer and service-learning projects. The economic value of that community service alone exceeds \$1 million, according to Donna Chapa Crowe, director of the university's Center for Leadership Education and Service.

FOSTERING LEADERSHIP AMONG WOMEN

One of 10 sites nationwide, UNCW hosted Campaign College in February. The program encourages and trains young women to run for student government positions.

"We want to encourage more young women to run for student elected positions during their college years, which will prepare them to run for local, state and federal offices as well," said Michelle Scatton-Tessier, director of the Women's Studies and Resource Center. "This experience will prepare them for other positions of leadership in their communities and in their professional lives."

This program started in 2006 as a way to address the disproportion between the high percentage of women in colleges and universities and their low representation in student government by encouraging women to run for campus leadership positions.

Funding is provided by the American Association of University Women, the Women & Politics Institute and Running Start.

campaigncollege.ning.com

GENDER'S ROLE IN DRINKING CHALLENGED

"Real men can drink a lot. Drinking makes women sexy."

A UNCW substance abuse prevention program that challenges stereotypical gender roles like these has resulted in a significant reduction of high risk drinking – 18 percent in males and 14 percent in females – in three years.

It has also earned recognition from the U.S. Department of Education as one of only five programs in the country to receive model status, along with a grant of \$128,000 and designation as a Promising Program.

"Changing a High-Risk Drinking Culture through the Lens of Gender" includes 12 different forms of intervention facilitated by UNCW student educators. The new grant will expand the gender-specific program to include more extensive research and concentrated educational efforts with fraternities, sororities and athletes.

focused on the future

uncw has changed tremendously in the past 10 years.

What will the next decade bring?

After having met most of the strategic goals set in 2003, the university is now exploring new initiatives to keep it at the forefront of higher education innovation.

"We set bold targets that some thought were impossible to achieve," DePaolo told the board of trustees in February. "But we learned that by focusing our efforts and our resources in a few critical areas, we were able to make huge strides toward our goals."

As UNCW moves forward, DePaolo noted that the university's seven strategic goals and the 48 objectives that fall under them will continue to be the foundation of its future plans.

"Creation of a strategic plan gave us the focus we needed so that all of us were moving in the same direction," she said.

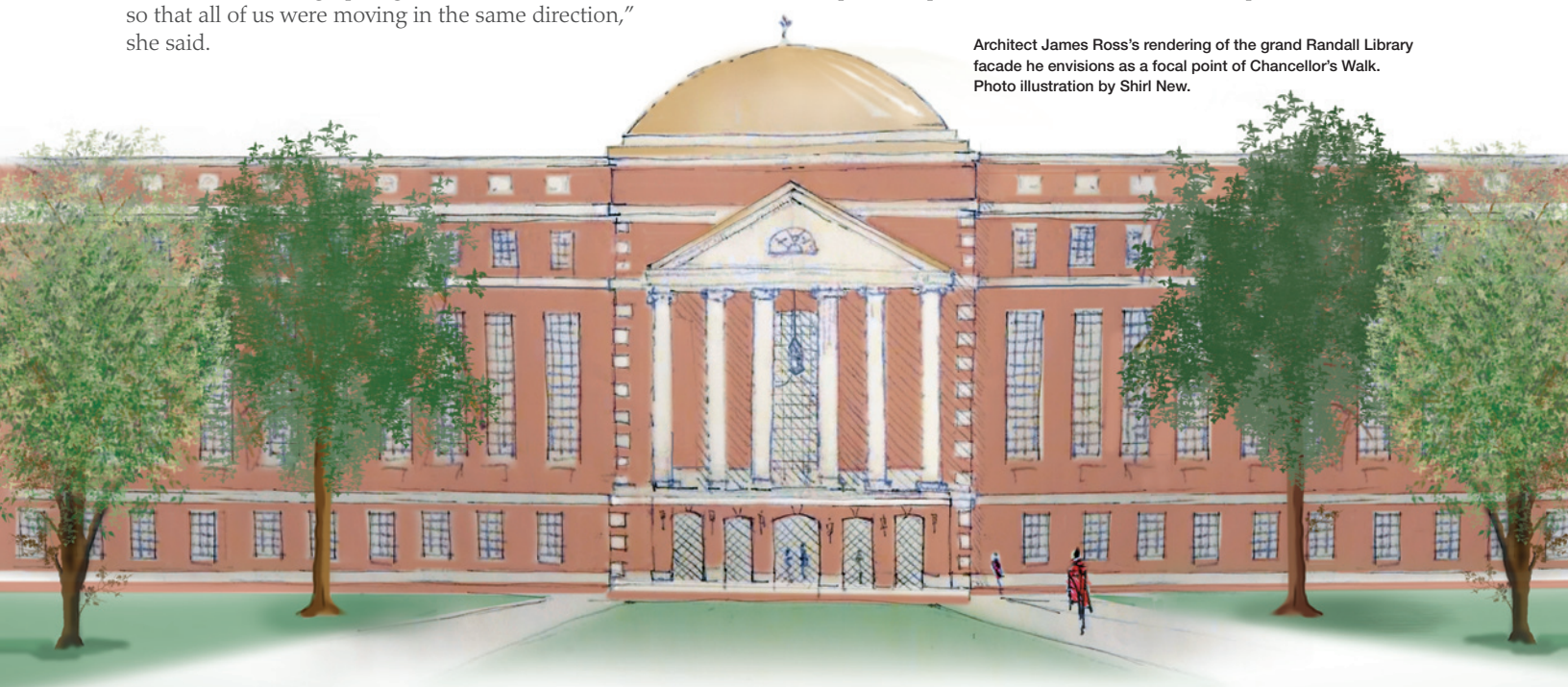
That required UNCW to develop innovative ideas and solutions, finding ways to meet student needs even in lean budget years.

"Now, it's time to think about the next decade and what new bold initiatives and targets we will set for ourselves," she added. "We've demonstrated our capabilities, and we will continue to aim high."

Committees of administrators, faculty and staff are developing proposals for Vision 2020.

"Vision 2020 will define UNCW's priorities as we pursue national prominence and the most powerful learning experience possible for our students," she explained.

Architect James Ross's rendering of the grand Randall Library facade he envisions as a focal point of Chancellor's Walk.
Photo illustration by Shirli New.



2003
2010
remarkable
growth

STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO	▶ 18.7:1 to 16.6:1
FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION RATE	▶ 40.7 to 43.5 PERCENT
SIX-YEAR GRADUATION RATE	▶ 59.1 to 68.5 PERCENT (UNC SYSTEM AVERAGE IS 59 PERCENT NATIONAL AVERAGE IS 56 PERCENT)
PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS HOUSED ON CAMPUS	▶ 23 to 37 PERCENT
RESEARCH EXPENDITURES	▶ \$12.8 MILLION to \$18.3 MILLION
MERIT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS	▶ \$430,223 to \$1,165,675
UNDERGRADUATES RECEIVING MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS	▶ 278 to 425
PERCENTAGE OF MINORITY STUDENTS	▶ 8.9 to 12.1 PERCENT
MINORITY SIX-YEAR GRADUATION RATE	▶ 56.9 to 61.5 PERCENT



by Courtney West '10

Students create iPhone applications

Everyday there are more than 100,000 iPhone applications available for download at the touch of a button.

Thanks to **Phillip Whisenhunt '10** and **Ricardo Valea '10**, UNCW now has its own iPhone application to access information about upcoming campus events and university news and view UNCW YouTube videos. UNCW was one of the first universities in the world to have a mobile application available on iTunes.

Valea and Whisenhunt share the iPhone spotlight with graduate student **Camilo Alvarez '05** who introduced his iTour application this fall. The new application is targeted towards prospective students and their parents who are unable to attend formal campus tours. It incorporates Google maps that enable the individual to virtually navigate around campus.

To keep up with the rising student interest in iPhone applications, UNCW now offers an iPhone application class taught by Eric Patterson along with Valea, his former student. The course is a high level programming class aimed at teaching the skills and language to write iPhone applications. As an added bonus, students can use their knowledge to create applications for Apple's newest gadget, the iPad.

After successfully launching two iPhone applications, Whisenhunt, Valea and Alvarez were inspired to start their own software development company called BoomCo. The company specializes in the development and design of iPhone applications. Already the partners have released several applications including the North Carolina Child Support Calculator, which helps divorce attorneys calculate child support dues for their clients, and iAcrostic, a fun interactive game that creates an acrostic poem for the text you enter.

A PASSION FOR ACTIVISM

Not many students can say they were one of 100,000 people to participate in one of the largest social movement in global history. However, **Brinkley Hutchings '11** proudly holds this honor.

The UNCW ECO president was one of three Greenpeace U.S. youth delegates to attend the 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark, in December. Hutchings spent the month abroad talking to UN delegates, networking, holding peaceful demonstrations and lobbying in attempt to have her voice, as well as the voices of youth around the globe, heard by world leaders.

Hutchings explained that the trip was “the most extreme wave of emotions I ever felt,” and she realized “how much louder we need to be to ensure clean energy.”

Hutchings, a coastal Alabama native, arrived at UNCW with a strong interest in the environment and intentions of obtaining a pre-med degree. Her concern for the environment was sparked by her father who is an environmental consultant.

“My dad had a huge impact on me,” she said. “He has taken me with him to environmental talks since I was five years old.”

Through her involvement in UNCW ECO and networking, Hutchings received the opportunity to attend the conference in Copenhagen. The trip was funded by Greenpeace.

Mary Nicol, Greenpeace Student Network manager, called Hutchings one afternoon and asked her to attend the conference.

“Brinkley is a really passionate and committed young person,” Nicol said. “She could be directing her energy in every direction, but chose this issue, making her a great spokesperson and easy choice.”

While in Copenhagen, Hutchings created relationships with youth from around the world who shared her hopes that the United States would take advantage of this rare opportunity to participate in the negotiations and make an immediate difference for the environment.

She explained that the U.S. is one of the world’s largest producers of carbon emissions and believes it is the country’s responsibility to lower this amount. She made it her goal to prove her concern to global leaders, but said she felt the pressure of the whole world on her shoulders, as the decision of many other countries was contingent on the U.S.

After tireless efforts, Hutchings left the conference exhausted with two strong points of insight to offer; one negative and one positive.

“World leaders do not have our best interest in mind right now because there is too much dirty money (i.e. oil) tied up in politics,” she said. However, she remains hopeful that awareness of environmental issues and dangers will continue to grow exponentially. Students’ voices are getting louder, she said, and she finds this to be extremely exciting.

“I was there on a mission,” Hutchings said as she reflected on her experience. “I am completely devoted to this issue for the rest of my life.” Her hope for the future includes starting her own nonprofit organization, much like UNCW ECO, but on a larger scale.

by Stephanie Saulsbury '10



Photo courtesy Brinkley Hutchings

Blog <http://bhutchings.wordpress.com>

Flickr www.flickr.com/photos/solargeneration

Virginia Adams, who served as dean of the School of Nursing from 1994 to 2008, is retiring effective June 30. Under her leadership, the school established a B.S. in clinical research, an M.S. in nursing and two post-master's certificate programs. With grants from the GlaxoSmithKline Foundation and the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, Adams founded Camp BONES (Brigade of Nurse Exploring Seahawks), a university-community partnership to prepare underserved and underrepresented youth for careers in nursing and the health sciences. She also was instrumental in helping the university to realize the new School of Nursing building, which is now nearing completion.

Bo Dean, honors program associate, received the National Therapeutic Recreation Society's Ron McKenney Community Service Award from the Congress of the National Recreation and Parks Association. The award is presented annually to a citizen who exemplifies the values and accomplishments of the late McKenney, mayor of St. Petersburg Beach, Fla.

Chris E. Fonvielle Jr. '78, assistant professor of history, was elected the State of North Carolina George Washington Distinguished Professor by the N.C. Society of the Cincinnati. The Society of the Cincinnati was founded in 1783 by officers of the Continental army to perpetuate the memory and ideals of Revolutionary War patriots. He will receive a \$6,000 stipend to support his research and publication efforts regarding the Revolutionary War in North Carolina. He is researching a book on the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge.

Doug Gamble, associate professor of geography and geology, received the Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers 2009 Excellence in Teaching Award, which recognizes excellence, innovation and commitment to geographic education.

Soul Enchilada, a novel by **David Gill**, was named a Best Book for Young Adults by the American Library Association's Young Adult Library Services Association and Best of 2009 by Kirkus Reviews. Gill is an associate professor of English education in the Watson School of Education.

Edelmira Segovia '98 is the new director of UNCW Centro Hispano. She has a master's in romance languages/Spanish from Appalachian State University, has a North Carolina teacher's license in Spanish K-12 and ESL K-12 and is enrolled in the educational leadership doctoral program in the Watson School of Education. She has been recognized as a leader in the local Hispanic community, participating in many programs that successfully advanced the educational opportunities for Hispanics.

Joseph Pawlik was interviewed by EarthSky for his knowledge of giant barrel sponges. The segment aired on NPR stations around the country and was posted to www.earthsky.org. The website The Sponge Guide: A Picture Guide to Caribbean Sponges is a collaboration between Pawlik, **Tim Henkel '01M, '08 Ph.D.** and sponge taxonomist Sven Zea from Santa Marta, Colombia, funded by the National Science Foundation.

History professor **David LaVere** received the 2009 R.D.W. Conner Award from the Historical Society of North Carolina for his paper "The 1937 Chowan River 'Dare Stone': A Re-Evaluation," which appeared in the North Carolina Historical Review.

by **LaTacheé Howard '10**






faculty
and staff

Great art, great life

“As musicians, we always live in a recession, so the economy doesn’t really affect us. If your goal is to make great art, then you’ll have a great life,” trombonist **Jerald Shynett** states.

Shynett, who has taught trombone, improvisation, jazz theory, jazz arranging and jazz history at UNCW for 10 years, performs with the Jazz Surge, the resident jazz orchestra at the University of South Florida Center for Jazz Composition.

His hard work and dedication were recognized unexpectedly earlier this year when the Jazz Surge’s single “Slings and Arrows” from the album *The Comet’s Tail* made the 52nd Annual Grammy Awards nomination list in the Best Instrumental Arrangement category.



“I live in two worlds: the academic world and the competitive world of performance,” Shynett said. “Performing keeps me on my toes and competitive and allows me to share my experience with my students so that they can learn application of classroom theory – the practical aspects of performance.”

Being nominated for a Grammy Award showed the humble side of Shynett even though he was delighted by the idea of his music being shared with a bigger audience.

“When we recorded *The Comet’s Tail* – the album that ‘Slings and Arrows’ appears on – we didn’t think about Grammy nominations. The Jazz Surge is a little out of the mainstream. We’re a serious ensemble, and we try to create great art. Sometimes that connects to a broader audience, and sometimes it doesn’t. It would be great if this nomination introduced us to a new audience.”

The Comet’s Tail was a tribute to Michael Brecker, who passed away in 2007, two months before he was scheduled to perform with the Surge. Brecker was an influential Grammy-Award winning jazz saxophonist who in the ’70s and ’80s performed with Eric Clapton, Herbie Hancock, Chick Corea, Aerosmith, Quincy Jones, Joni Mitchell, Paul Simon, Frank Sinatra and Bruce Springsteen. The album is a collection of Brecker’s compositions, “re-envisioned by several arrangers. So the nomination is meaningful in a lot of ways,” Shynett said.

Shynett has a positive, inspirational outlook on music.

“I can show my students that it’s possible – maybe not easy, but possible – to make a living performing music. You might have to combine your performance life with other jobs or learn another instrument, but you can do it if you commit to it and if money isn’t your goal.”



Peterson, Cooper-Dyke tapped as basketball coaches

Robert “Buzz” Peterson, who has led four different teams to five post-season tournament appearances during an impressive college coaching career, is the ninth head men’s basketball coach in UNCW history.

Peterson stands 225-147 (.605) in 11 seasons as a head coach. Most recently he led Appalachian State to the semifinals of the CollegeInsider.com Tournament, guiding the Mountaineers to a 24-13 overall record.

Before entering the coaching ranks, he played for UNC Chapel Hill head coach Dean Smith from 1981-85 and helped lead the Tar Heels to a 115-22 record and four ACC championships. He was member of the 1982 national championship team with future NBA stars Michael Jordan, James Worthy and Sam Perkins.



Cynthia Cooper-Dyke, one of the most decorated players in the history of women’s basketball, takes over the helm of the Seahawk program following a successful five-year stint at Prairie View A&M in central Texas.

The former college great, Olympic gold medalist and Women’s National Basketball Association Most Valuable Player will be enshrined into the James Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame on August 13 in Springfield, Mass.

The popular player-turned-coach joined the Prairie View program in May 2005 and guided the Panthers to Southwestern Athletic Conference titles in 2007, 2008 and 2009, NCAA tournament appearances in 2007 and 2009 and the Women’s National Invitation tournament in 2008, garnering Coach of the Year accolades on two occasions.

No. 9 for the Seahawks

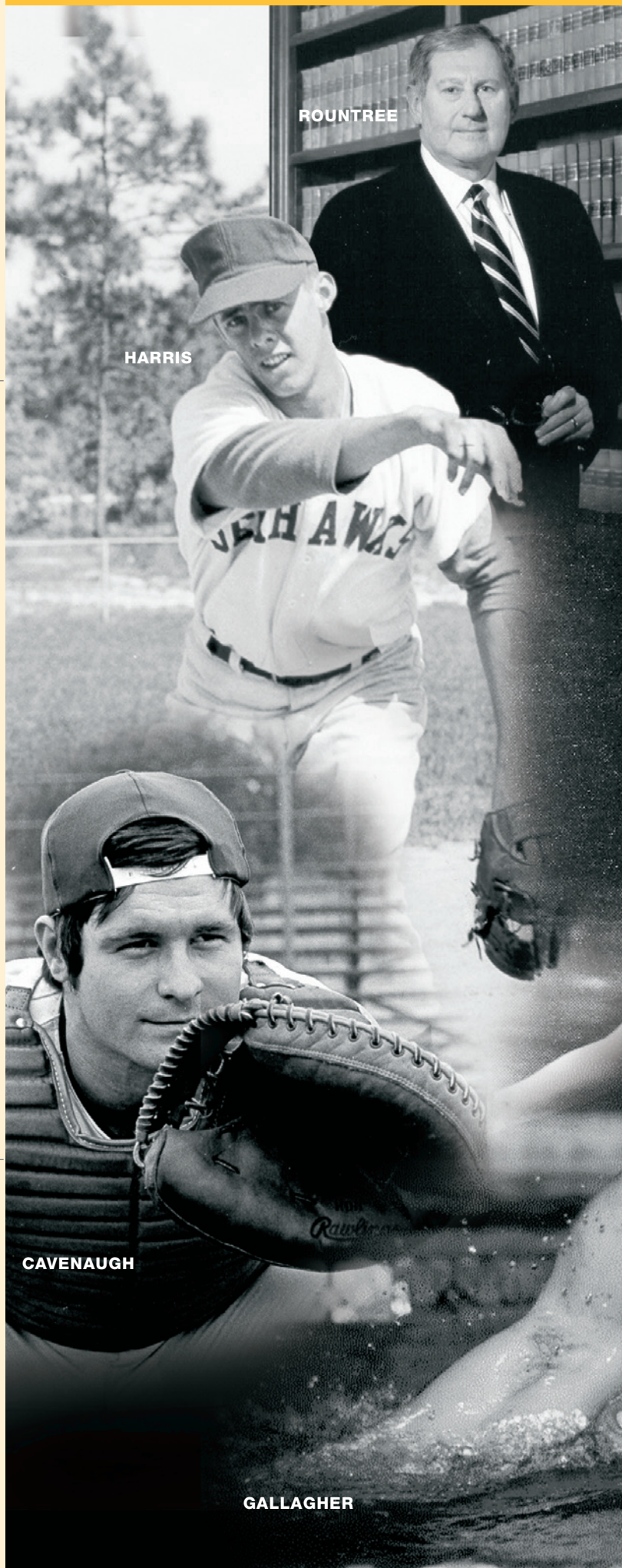
It’s becoming a habit.

For the ninth year in a row, UNCW’s men’s swimming and diving has claimed the CAA crown.

The Seahawks are tied with James Madison for the most championships in Colonial Athletic Association sports history. For the women, it was their second second-place finish since winning their third title in 2006.

Dave Allen was named 2009-10 CAA Men’s Swimming Coach of the Year. It was his third consecutive award and the seventh overall on the men’s side.

Senior Rob Anderson closed out his collegiate career in style representing UNCW at the 2010 NCAA Men’s Swimming Championships. Senior Caitlin Kirsteier swam at the NCAA Women’s Championships.



hall of fame

Baseball standouts **Bruce Cavanaugh** and **Bill Harris** were joined by women's basketball all-time leading scorer **Gwen Austin**, swimming All-American **Dan Gallagher** and longtime benefactor **George Rountree III** in the eighth class of the UNCW Athletic Hall of Fame.



Cavanaugh was a versatile catcher who belted 18 home runs, drove in 74 runs, had 37 stolen bases and scored 125 runs during his four-year career in the early 1970s. He was a three-time NAIA District 28 selection and enjoyed his finest season in 1971 when he batted .314 with six doubles, four triples and six home runs. Following graduation in 1973, he became a successful area businessman and assisted UNCW's athletic department with several facility improvements.

Harris, a shortstop, played a key role in Wilmington College's national run in the early 1960s. He ranked second on the team with a .378 batting average as UNCW captured the 1963 National Junior College Championship in Grand Junction, Colo. He went 8-for-12 at the dish and reached base in 18-of-21 plate appearances at the JUCO World Series, earning All-Tournament honors. Harris played professional baseball from 1966-72 with the Cleveland Indians and the Kansas City Royals.

Austin was First-Team All-ECAC and ECAC South Player of the Year in 1984-85 after averaging 20.4 points and 12.8 rebounds for the women's basketball team. During her 109-game career, she averaged a double-double of 18.9 points and 11.8 rebounds, shooting a remarkable 52 percent from the field. She remains UNCW's all-time leader in scoring, rebounding and blocked shots. She also holds school records for career scoring average, career rebounding average; she owns 16 school records overall. Austin was honored in 2009 as one of the CAA's past greats of the game.

Gallagher was the pre-eminent swimmer in the conference from 1999 to 2002. He was the CAA's Swimmer of the Meet and Swimmer of the Year in 2002 and finished fourth in the 50 freestyle at the 2002 NCAA championships. Gallagher was invited to swim at the U.S. Olympic Trials and traveled with Team USA to meets in 2004 and 2006. He won six CAA titles and, in 2002, was the second UNCW swimmer to earn NCAA Division I All-America honors. He led the Seahawks to their first in a long line of CAA championships and was named outstanding swimmer for 2001 and 2002. He was honored as a member of the CAA's Silver Anniversary Team.

Rountree, a prominent civic leader and attorney, played a key role in the development of the Seahawk Club and served as president five times. He was a member of the UNCW Board of Trustees from 1989 to 1993 and later served on the UNCW Board of Visitors. Rountree's many contributions, assisting young student-athletes with his time and resources, were recognized in 2009 when he was inducted into the Greater Wilmington Sports Hall of Fame. He established an endowed scholarship at UNCW and, in 1989, made a significant contribution that transformed the men's basketball locker room into one of the finest facilities in the country.



UNCW embraces veterans as students

by William Davis '08M

Fall 2010 admissions* up 260 percent
*veterans and dependents

Allison Westpfahl knows that she stands out.

She's older than the typical sophomore and has little in common with most of her classmates.

Westpfahl is one of hundreds of veterans, active servicemen and military dependents enrolled in classes at the University of North Carolina Wilmington.

The transition from military life to student life wasn't an easy one for Westpfahl. Becoming a student meant leaving the regimented existence of a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps, where she worked as an avionics technician with the Marine Helicopter Training Squadron 302, repairing the Corps' massive CH-53 Sea Stallion helicopters.

Westpfahl came to UNCW through the Elite-to-Elite program, just one of the numerous examples of the growing cooperation between the military and the university system. In the Elite-to-Elite program, the Marine Corps selects active duty Marines who have the aptitude to excel in a University of North Carolina system university and streamlines their application process. When the 25-year-old single mother enrolled at UNCW in 2009 and began taking courses alongside teenagers just out of high school, she found the experience sometimes daunting.

"I basically just had to start over," she said.

However, Westpfahl quickly found that she had the full support of the university to help her transition. While some veterans are overwhelmed by navigating the bureaucracies of academia and veterans' services, she found allies at UNCW in the form of dedicated financial aid officers, counselors and other university employees tasked with the job of assisting the campus's veteran population.

From the first moment military-affiliated students contact UNCW, they are put in touch with a specialist trained in dealing with the G.I. Bill, dependent benefits and other intricacies of the various military branches aid programs.

"There's really not a whole lot of work that we have to do to get things going, because there are people who are helping us out along the way. The veteran services here are just absolutely phenomenal. Everything here is pretty much geared toward helping veterans out," said Westpfahl.

Easing the transition

Realizing that its proximity to Fort Bragg and Camp Lejeune, two of the nation's largest military bases, makes it a first choice for many in the military, UNCW has prioritized making the difficult journey from soldier to student easier.

"We've always been connected to the military. Of course, we are going to take care of our veterans," said Elaine Hogan, an academic advisor at UNCW and member of the UNCW Military Task Force.

The university's bond with veterans goes back to its founding. In 1947, veterans taking advantage of the post-WWII G.I. Bill comprised 75 percent of the 238 students who formed the first class at Wilmington College, the precursor to UNCW.

Today, students with military connections come from an array of backgrounds and have needs that are unique. Some are active duty military personnel taking part-time courses while they serve, either in the classroom or via the internet during their deployment. Others are veterans like Westpfahl or spouses and children of military personnel.

During orientation, veterans attend a special break-out session and a social mixer to familiarize them with their fellow student veterans and the services available to them from the university.

The Student Veteran Organization (SVO) connects veterans so they feel less isolated on campus, providing a place to meet and study. And if they are in need of help, the counseling center employs a counselor specially trained in working with veterans, particularly those suffering from post-traumatic-stress disorder.

The most recent efforts to integrate military-affiliated students into campus life have been cited as a model at the state and national level. UNCW's commitment to veterans gained it a spot on *G.I. Jobs* ranking of the nation's most military friendly colleges and universities, naming it one of the 35 "military friendly schools" in North Carolina and the only one that fulfills all the criteria for the designation.

A major factor in UNCW's responsiveness to its veteran population was the creation of a formal Military Advisory Board and intra-campus Military Task Force in 2007, which has become the driving force in instituting many of the changes that have taken place around campus.

With participants from the faculty, administration, admissions, the registrar's office, the Onslow Extension campus in Jacksonville and student veterans, the task force allows the university to bring together decision makers who deal directly with student veterans to discuss what they are seeing and make recommendations for change.

Hogan points to student veterans' suggestion to give them college

credit for physical education because, as servicemembers, they all had to pass the physical fitness component of basic training. The task force agreed and convinced faculty and staff that the change would be a good idea.

"It took getting everyone in the room and hearing from the students directly," said Hogan.

Grassroots effort pays off

Original task force members like Hogan freely admit that the idea for the task force came not from university officials, but from the efforts of one student – Ernie Kniffen.

While most student veterans are considered non-traditional students, Kniffen is less traditional than most. He served with the Marine Corps in Vietnam during the mid-1960s, left the war with a commission as a captain and, while working as a police officer, enrolled in college in New York.

He witnessed firsthand the student protests and social disruptions as the nation's campuses turned against the draft and the war. He faced hostility and perplexed reactions from professors and students when he revealed he was a veteran, an experience that remains with him to this day.

"I went to college when the attitude toward veterans was not congenial. There were a lot of bitter tastes in the mouths of Vietnam veterans," said Kniffen.

After retiring with his wife to Wilmington, Kniffen returned to school to study history in 2003, the same year that the U.S. invaded Iraq. As the war raged, he worried that returning veterans enrolling in college would face the same experiences he had many years ago. Feeling it was his duty to make sure this did not happen, Kniffen worked with campus officials to form an organization that would make veterans

feel "more of a part of the university and not out of it." From his efforts, both the SVO and the Military Task Force were formed.

One of the first things the new task force studied was how the university handled applications for admission. A life in the service is full of the many disruptions – courses taken and dropped, colleges entered and left – that raise red flags with admissions officers. Some veterans left high school with poor grades, never took the SATs or did not even earn a high school diploma. Veterans, they realized, were not traditional college freshmen, and their experiences and training needed to count for something. With the support of the administration, the team began reevaluating policies at every level.

One of the most significant changes came in how UNCW evaluates transfer credit. Ann Marie Beall, associate director of transfer admissions who works solely with military-affiliated students, said the task force's recommendations led to the university changing policies so that incoming veterans could receive credits toward their degree for what they learned in the service. Hospital corpsmen, for example, have their medical training recognized and receive transfer credit toward a nursing degree.

Efforts like this make a huge difference in the lives of students like Westpfahl. With the university taking care of the intricacies of her benefits and the support of fellow veterans through the SVO and other campus organizations, she can focus on her coursework.

Westpfahl is taking classes toward admittance in the recreational therapy program. Her ultimate goal when she graduates is to enter graduate school for physical therapy.

"I want to help our wounded warriors heal," she said.





On base with the military

An hour's drive north of Wilmington, the UNCW Onslow Extension campus in Jacksonville serves as another example of the university's relationship with the military. It provides more than 700 active duty military and family members the opportunity to pursue a degree at the extension or online, while serving or working full-time.

Beth Barton, director of the Onslow Extension and UNCW military liaison, said the university plans to expand the extension to accommodate the more than 40,000 servicemen and dependents expected to move into the Jacksonville area as part of a Marine Corps personnel realignment.

UNCW's formal relationship with the Marine Corps dates back to 1995, when Camp Lejeune's commanding officer approached it and Coastal Carolina Community College about the need for more teachers on the base. The partnership led to the creation of the Onslow Extension, which offers courses taught by UNCW professors on area bases and at Coastal Carolina Community College in Jacksonville.

UNCW social work professor Bob Blundo said that the university recently submitted proposals for the creation of two unique military specific programs – the Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Military and Veteran Affairs and Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Conflict Management and Resolution – and is considering a military-specific concentration that would explore the challenges of military life.

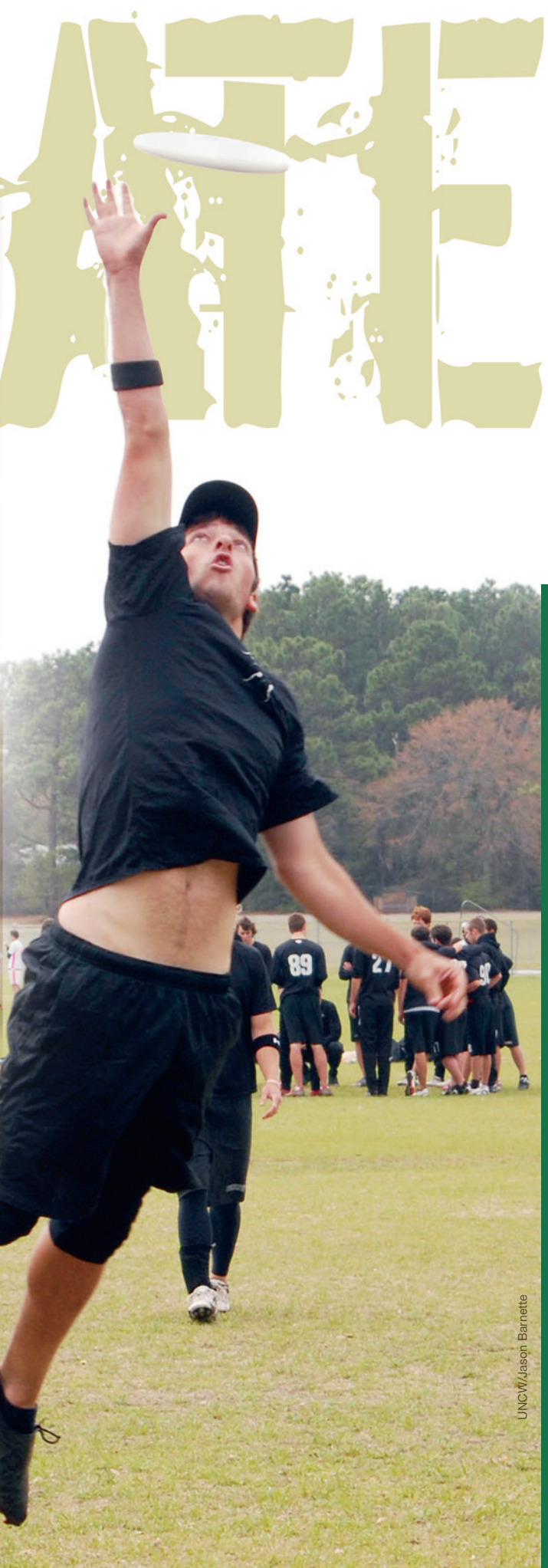
As wars wage on overseas, and local bases continue to expand, these programs would help social workers and others who work with the armed forces understand the codes, training and outlook that separate military culture from the civilian world. "It would introduce them to the culture of military life," said Blundo.

JUST IN TIME

flying higher than a Seahawk

by Jesse Bazemore '10





UNCW/Jason Barnette

A disc is thrown, and the UNCW Ultimate team awaits as it soars through the air. An angry pack dashes across the field to defend. The disc lands, and it is immediately picked up to be flicked sideways, across the field through the grasp of snarling defenders and into the hands of a friendly. It is then hammered over the top of the defense into a sea of hands.

UNCW Club Ultimate scores!

This has been the outcome in many games since the introduction of Club Ultimate at the University of North Carolina Wilmington in 1988. Throughout the fall and spring semesters, those traveling by the intramural fields can see all sorts of flicks, hammers, backhands and even the occasional scoober.

The goal of Ultimate Frisbee, officially titled Ultimate due to licensure of the Frisbee trademark by the Wham-O toy company, is to score points by passing the disc to a teammate in the opposing end zone.

The game combines the non-stop movement and athletic endurance of soccer with the aerial passing skills of football. It is played by two, seven-player squads with a high-tech plastic disc on a field similar to football. The objective of the game is to score by catching a pass in the opponent's end zone. A player must stop running while in possession of the disc, but may pivot and pass to any of the other receivers on the field. Games typically are played to 15 points and can last from one to two hours.

Games are player-officiated, meaning there are no official referees overseeing the game. The players must be able to resolve conflicts on the field according to set rules of regulation called the Spirit of the Game. According to Kelly Tidwell, captain of the women's team, "This says something about how ultimate players are able to resolve conflicts without third party mediation."

The two UNCW Ultimate teams are comprised of dedicated men and women from the freshman to senior levels, representing practically all majors at UNC Wilmington. They devote their time, bodies and even their own money to the sport so they can compete against others across the nation.

The men's team, the UNCW Seamen, and women's team, the UNCW Seaweed, have been competing at high levels since their induction year. Both teams have made it to the finals of many state and national tournaments.

The Seaman gained the national title in 1993, and the Seaweed won the nationals in both 1992 and 1996 and were ranked No. 1 in the country in 2000.

In both 2009 and 2010, the Seaweed, took first place at the Ultimate Players Association Atlantic Coast College Women's Regional Champions, with an overall 5-0 record, both times defeating UNC Chapel Hill in the finals. They are ranked seventh in the nation by the Ultimate Players Association and competed in the nationals in Madison, Wisc., May 28-31.

While there has been great success in the past, the purpose of UNCW Ultimate is to win each year. "Our reason to play is to improve on each year's performance. That's how we make it to nationals," Stephen Bender, captain of the Seamen, said.

Money is allocated to the teams based on a points system governed by the UNCW Sports Club Program, which helps to cover tournament entrance fees and equipment. "We work hard by attending meetings, organizing functions and painting the spirit rock on campus to gain much needed budget points," Tidwell said.

The Ultimate teams also get money from fundraisers and by hosting tournaments like the Port City Classic in September and the Easterns Tournament in March. In addition, team sponsors help cover costs.

The UNCW Seamen and Seaweed share a strong bond, according to Tidwell.

"We cheer each other on at tournaments. We are sometimes the only fans each team has, especially at tournaments outside of Wilmington." This allows the teams to celebrate the triumphs, as well as help overcome losses.

Club Ultimate, overall, is about being competitive to achieve success.

One goal shared between the two UNCW teams, according to Bender is to "earn the respect from the UNCW community as well as other Ultimate competitors due to the success that our teams have had at both the state and national level."

Ultimate is a sport for the love of the sport. It allows a diverse group of men and women to come together and play as a team. While many of the members of the Seaman and the Seaweed wish to see their sport to one day become nationally recognized by the NCAA, they understand that their teams are something special because Ultimate is about the dedication on and off the field.

"Spirit of the Game.

Ultimate relies upon a spirit of sportsmanship that places the responsibility for fair play on the player. Highly competitive play is encouraged, but never at the expense of mutual respect among competitors, adherence to the agreed upon rules, or the basic joy of play. Protection of these vital elements serves to eliminate unsportsmanlike conduct from the Ultimate field. Such actions as taunting opposing players, dangerous aggression, belligerent intimidation, intentional infractions, or other 'win-at-all-costs' behavior are contrary to the Spirit of the Game and must be avoided by all players."

Welcome to the Dub Club

the UNCW sports club program

This program represents 28 different sports ranging from lacrosse and wakeboard to gymnastics and rugby. There are more than 550 members, each searching to either continue his or her athletic career or simply wanting to try a new sport.

"Club sports are fundamentally different from NCAA athletics," coordinator Bob Gough points out. "They are student-driven where the members handle the administration and planning of their individual sport." They fall under the Sports Club Council which is funded in part by the Student Government Association.

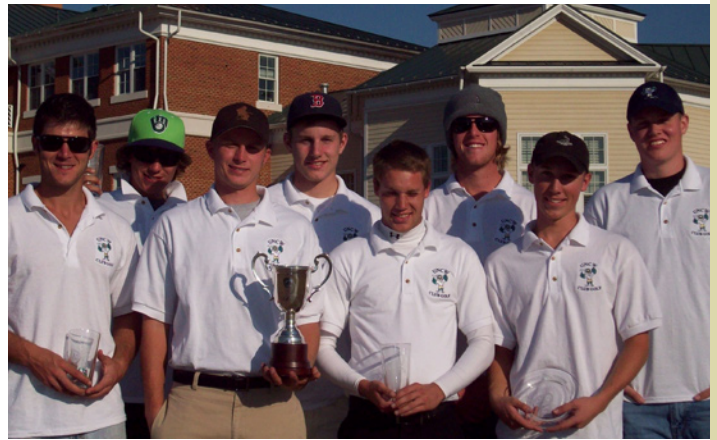
The program's motto – "To provide an opportunity to live a balanced life academically, athletically and socially" – represents the underlying principles of club sports.

There is no limit to the number of club sports at UNCW. While each receives some financial support from student fees, the clubs may hold fundraisers and seek sponsorships to cover travel costs and expenses.

Throughout the years, the program has witnessed great success at both the state and national levels. The UNCW Club Golf and Surf teams last year gained national recognition for winning championships in their respective sports. The UNCW Hockey and Ultimate club teams continue to dominate their competition at the state level.

The UNCW sports club program cherishes those successes, but the ultimate goal of the Dub Club is to continue building platforms for UNCW students to be successful both academically and athletically.

top COMPETITORS



Two other club sports had a successful year in regional and national competitions.

The UNCW Surf Team dominated the April 11 National Scholastic Surfing Association East Coast Championships. The team's final tally reached 119 points at the end of the weekend in Sebastian Inlet, Fla., where the second-place finisher had only 68 points.

The contest serves as a qualifier for nationals in June at Salt Creek, Calif., where the team is a favorite to bring home the gold.

Mike Powell won his second East Coast title with Thomas Bruce, Ian Tilghman and Ben Powell taking fourth, fifth and sixth respectively. In the college longboard division, Drake Courie took first place; Liza Dean finished with fourth place in the college women's division.

UNCW's Club Golf team won the National Collegiate Club Golf Association National Championship Nov. 7-8 at the Independence Golf Club in Richmond, Va. UNCW was one of 13 teams from eight states that qualified for the championship tournament.

Four of the UNCW club team's competing players made the eight-member All Tournament Team. Alex Harris, who placed first overall, finished with a total score of 146 (scoring a 71 on the first day and 75 on the second day). Other UNCW members of the All Tournament Team were Chris Faulkner, Clint Azor and Erik Ehlert.

UNCW surf team photo used with permission by National Scholastic Surfing Association.



UNCW/Jamie Monciief

ENCOURAGING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

With a \$100,000 contribution from the Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation, the UNCW Entrepreneurship Center has the opportunity to create a stellar speaker series to bring leading national entrepreneurs to campus.

“The new Wachovia Wells Fargo Entrepreneurial Speaker Series will be the feature of our annual Entrepreneurship Week activities,” said Larry Clark, dean of the Cameron School of Business. “This gift will help us continue to provide critical support to our community, students, faculty and staff.”

The UNCW Entrepreneurship Center was launched in 2009 as a catalyst for entrepreneurial growth in Southeastern North Carolina. The idea for the center evolved from discussions inspired by the Cape Fear Future Project, an economic development effort spearheaded by the Greater Wilmington Chamber of Commerce. The center links entrepreneurs, emerging and high-growth ventures and support organizations to stimulate economic growth, jobs and innovation.

“UNCW has been instrumental in helping the Cape Fear Future Project move forward,” said Randy Tomsic, chamber of commerce executive committee chairman and Wachovia Wilmington market president. “Wachovia and UNCW share a passion for building our area economy. It made perfect sense for us to partner in making Wilmington a place where people want to bring their businesses.” <http://uncwec.org>

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES, CHANGING LIVES *by Andrea Weaver*

Merit scholarships inspire students' confidence, determination and pride. Their real value is measured as much by the lives they change as the dollars they supply.

"It's a dream come true for me every single day that I am here," said senior Nolan Heath, recipient of the Anne Green Saus Scholarship, a merit award sponsored by the Department of English.

"Receiving the scholarship was truly a highlight in my academic career," he said. "I am inspired by what the award has meant to me – that my academic pursuits are recognized by others as valuable and worthwhile. You cannot grow if you aren't willing to take a few leaps of faith, and a scholarship gives you all the courage to do just that."

English majors who are concentrating on literature or professional writing are eligible to compete for the Saus Scholarship, funded by Charles F. Green III '71. Heath, who is from Wilmington, hopes to become an English professor someday. He plans to pursue his master's degree at UNCW.

Laura Ann Hiles, a senior from Michigan, received the John and Belle Shishko Scholarship in Life Sciences, a merit award funded by Shishko and his late wife, as well as the UNCW Alumni Association's Jim Humphries Memorial Scholarship, which emphasizes campus involvement and leadership.

"These scholarships have allowed me the time to invest in my future," she said. Hiles transferred to UNCW after spending a year at a university in Hawaii. She is a marine biology major and president of the UNCW Akido Club and Tau Sigma, an honors fraternity for transfer students.

"When I tell most people about my transfer from Hawaii, they ask me why on earth I would make such a move," she said. "But I tell them all that after experiencing the quality of teaching, the fun and welcoming environment, the wide array of organizations to get involved in and the generous financial assistance I received from UNCW, it was a no-brainer."

Hiles has discovered a passion for neuroscience, working with Richard Satterlie, the Frank Hawkins Kenan Distinguished Professor in Marine Science, on an honors project studying comparative invertebrate neuroanatomy.

She plans to attend graduate school to become a clinical researcher who analyzes the causes of mental diseases and develops more effective treatments for them. She has received scholarships from her top two choices, Baylor College of Medicine in Houston and Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

Creating opportunities like the ones Heath and Hiles have experienced inspired Jean and Eric Rosenberg to establish a merit scholarship, the first fund founded as part of the new UNCW Distinguished Merit Scholarship program.



Charles Green III '71 and Nolan Heath '11



Jean and Eric Rosenberg with Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo

The Rosenbergs – Eric is a physician with Delaney Radiologists in Wilmington and vice chair of the UNCW Board of Visitors, and the couple co-owns Fiore Fine Flowers – wanted to establish a “full ride” scholarship, open to any high ability-student in any discipline that covers in-state tuition, fees, books and supplies.

“The campus is growing. UNCW’s reputation is growing,” Jean Rosenberg said. “It is such a positive influence in our community. This is a way for us to say, ‘We believe in you and what you are doing.’”

“When we asked the university’s closest friends and volunteers to support this new merit scholarship program, Eric and Jean Rosenberg were the first to respond,” Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo said. “Their leadership means so much to UNCW now and even more to the generations of students who will benefit from their scholarship.”

Donors like the Rosenbergs, the Shishkos and Green have made a lasting impression on Heath and Hiles, who both hope they will one day have the personal resources to give back to UNCW.

“I am convinced that there are two things people wish to gain out of this life: They wish to be loved, and they wish to be remembered. I want to be remembered as a giver,” Heath said, who dreams of one day seeing the Nolan Heath Center for Writing on campus.

UNCW’s Distinguished Merit Scholarship Program

- ◆ Designed to help UNCW compete with other leading universities for the best and brightest students.
- ◆ Provides students with financial support from “admission to commencement” with a scholarship renewable during the four-year term for an undergraduate.
- ◆ Increases the number of merit scholarships available, especially for freshmen. UNCW offers merit scholarships to about 5 percent of incoming freshmen, far less than comparable universities.
- ◆ Doesn’t restrict awards based on academic programs or geographic areas.
- ◆ Provides donors the opportunity to create their own scholarships or contribute to a general fund that supports the overall program.

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www.uncw.edu/giveonline

EDUCATING STUDENTS NOW AND FOREVER

Jorge L. Figueroa’s love for educating UNCW students will live on long past his tenure as community health education coordinator for the Department of Health and Applied Human Sciences.

“I love what I do! It doesn’t matter how tired I am, when I walk into a classroom and walk out later, I am jazzed up,” he said. “When I am in class is when I am most alive.”

In 2008, Figueroa was diagnosed with splenic marginal zone lymphoma, a rare cancer that accounts for less than one percent of all non-Hodgkin’s lymphomas in the U.S. It is treatable in his case, but not curable. His doctors estimate he has between one and seven years to live.



“Getting a diagnosis like that gave me a chance to reflect,” Figueroa said.

“It made sense to me to put my priorities in death in the same place as my priorities in life,” he said. “I’ve taken care of my family, and there will be enough left over from my life insurance to start a scholarship endowment for our program.”

He created the scholarship using a charitable gift planning option that enabled him to establish an

endowment, a fund designed to grow over time and assist students far into the future.

The university’s community health education program prepares students for careers in several fields, including health education, school and corporate wellness program management and public health program management. Figueroa, a clinical psychologist who specializes in behavioral medicine, has extensive experience managing both public and private health and wellness programs, but prefers teaching students.

Figueroa’s legacy at UNCW will live on through the scholarship he has created. By sharing his story, he hopes to encourage others to create their own planned gifts.

“I hope everyone will reflect on what they value and how they want to be remembered,” Figueroa said. “If just one other person decides to fund a scholarship, this will be worth it.”

For more information about gift planning options, contact development director Herb Bailey at 910.962.3214 or visit www.uncw.edu/giftplanning.



uncw alumni awards

Distinguished Alumnus of the Year **Bill Saffo '83**

A lifelong resident and mayor of Wilmington, he is the owner of Hanover Realty Inc. He has served as a volunteer with the UNCW Foundation Board, the Community Boys and Girls Club, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Wilmington West Rotary Club and many other organizations. In nomination of Saffo, UNCW international and public affairs department chair Roger Lowery said, "As the son of first-generation Greek immigrants, Bill typifies the American dream of achieving success through personal responsibility and community service."

Young Alumnus of the Year **Lee Michael Grant '00**

At only 32, Grant is the sole owner of Coastal Chemical and Paper Inc., a local chemical and maintenance supply company with clients across the country. Grant is an avid supporter of Andy's Foundation, the UNCW Seahawk and Dugout Clubs, the Landfall Foundation and other local charities. He was a pitcher for the UNCW baseball team from 1996 to 1999. Nominator Gregory Howard of LagasseSweet Inc. said, "He cares deeply about the community and is committed to making it a better place for all. He operates with a level of integrity that is almost unheard of in today's marketplace." Grant will join the UNCW Alumni Association Board of Directors in July 2010.

Distinguished Citizen of the Year **Walter Pancoe**

The owner of the Caper Corporation real estate development company, Pancoe has been an active member of the community since moving to Wilmington in 1978. At UNCW, he has been a donor for the Charles and Hannah Block Distinguished Professorship in Jewish History, numerous campus arts programs and multiple other projects. In the community, he is involved with the Thalian Hall Center for the Performing Arts, the Cameron Art Museum, Wilmington's Temple of Israel and other groups. Eddie Stuart, assistant to the vice chancellor for university advancement who nominated Pancoe for the award, said, "Walter's interests are varied, but all are connected by a central theme – enhancing the quality of life through the arts, the pursuit of education and economic viability for our region."

Keeping the company of **Seahawks**

The UNCW Alumni Association is working hard to connect all alumni back to the university. Whether they want to get involved wherever they live or reconnect with professors and classmates on campus, the alumni association provides programming that appeals to all.

For **Cynthia Scott '06**, secretary of the Cape Fear Chapter, "the alumni association has been my way to stay involved with UNCW even after my undergraduate experience ended. They host a variety of formal events, socials and TEALgates before our basketball games as a way to engage any type of alumni."

Why is the alumni relations office focusing on chapter development?

The alumni association is charged with engaging all alumni in the life of the university. The most effective way to engage the masses is through the creation of alumni chapters.

There are three different types of alumni chapters at UNCW: geographic, academic and affinity. For geographic chapters, the association brings university and alumni programming to areas where large numbers of alumni live. Academic chapters are for alumni who want to socialize with the network of people who graduated from their major. Affinity chapters center on bringing alumni together based on a specific interest or group that they were involved in while they were on campus. For examples of active chapters, please visit, www.uncw.edu/alumni/chapters.html.

How does the association get alumni involved?

Involvement opportunities include serving on a steering committee, recruiting others to become involved, volunteering to help with specific events or simply attending events.

For geographic chapters, the association hosts three to four events per year in an area, based on the number of alumni living and working there. These events include a social mixer, a sporting event and a fall dinner meeting. Once these basic programs gain support and attendance, the programming is then expanded in that area.

During Family and Alumni Weekend, programming is focused on reunions. The 2010 event is planned for October 15-18. The association will host a Young Alumni Reunion for all those who graduated within the past 10 years. There also will be a reunion for alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago. These individuals are members of the Golden Wing Society.

Homecoming reunions are focused on academic and affinity groups. All alumni are encouraged to come back to campus to reconnect with their former professors and classmates. Hundreds of alumni returned to campus as the alumni association hosted 13 events in 36 hours during Homecoming 2010.

In addition to the reunions, academic alumni groups host social, educational and networking events throughout the year in Wilmington.



Lyn Blizzard '75 and Richard Pratt '75 hang out with Sammy Seahawk at the Cape Fear Chapter's annual Grand Slam Jam at Brooks Field.

Why should **alumni get involved?**

Some just want to reconnect with others who share a common bond and reminisce. Some want to network for job opportunities or to market their businesses. For most, their time at UNCW was unforgettable – and the alumni association fosters occasions to keep the memories of their college days alive.

Tracy Pagnozzi '98, '00M serves on the Triangle Chapter's steering committee. "I try, as much as possible, to make connections with other Seahawks in the area. UNCW is the common denominator for us, so the average of our collective experiences must be similar. We may always have something to talk about. In the business world, I think connections and having a good network of resources are also important," she said.

"What a great opportunity I have to meet other Seahawks, with over 7,000 of us living right here in the Triangle. I also enjoy hearing about fellow Seahawks, who are earning awards and honors while in school. It helps me to know that I am in esteemed company among other Seahawks."

Are you interested in getting involved? One of first things to do is visit the alumni website – www.uncw.edu/alumni – where you can find numerous opportunities to stay connected.

LaTacheé Howard '10, Lindsay Terry LeRoy and Kim Gargiulo contributed to this story.



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African American Graduates Association

Lolita Bryant '04

Crew Club

Jennifer Tripplett '97

Wilmington College

Jim Medlin '52



Warren '03



Edelman '74



Poteat '93



Wilburn '97



Minges '97



Hall '99



Smith '05 and Cooke '04

1970s

Carlos B. Toomer '72 is a creative personified solution specialist with Impetus Inc. in Valdosta, Ga.

Sweet Carolina: Favorite Desserts and Candies from the Old North State by

Foy Allen Edelman '74 was published by UNC Press. www.talkingcookbook.com (photo)

Diane Hause '78 moved her art studio from Atlanta to Ivanhoe, N.C. She was featured in a Feb. 23, 2010, article in the *Wilmington Star-News*. haustudio.com

1980s

Marsha Sidbury Spiller '81, a teacher at Dixon Middle School in Onslow County, was recognized by Cambridge Who's Who for her dedication and excellence in education.

Terry E. '82 and **Leisha Covington Cascaddan '83** visited Australia in July 2008 for the GlaxoSmithKline Diamond Tier Awards trip. Terry is an executive sales professional with GlaxoSmithKline.

Joseph Irrera '83, a colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves, is commander of the Marine Air Ground Task Force Staff Training Program in Quantico, Va.

Paula Chewning Walls '83 passed away on Oct. 21, 2009.

Helen Ward Stevens '84, '90M was promoted to vice president at First Bank in Wilmington.

Everett Clendenin '85 was promoted to major with the N.C. Highway Patrol. He is in charge of the support services section which includes the logistics and technical support units.

Norman G. '85, '96M and **Michelle Kern Hines '94M** adopted a two-year-old son, Tamirat, from Ethiopia in October 2009. They are both employed at UNC Greensboro.

Thomas Ely '86 graduated from Pfeiffer University in May 2009 with a Master of Health Administration degree.

Paul McCombie '86 is the director of retail and commercial banking at NewBridge Bank.

Do it online

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[www.uncw.edu/
alumni/update.html](http://www.uncw.edu/alumni/update.html)

alumni@uncw.edu

High resolution photos accepted.

William M. van der Meulen '87, associate dean of student and enrollment services, received Nash Community College's 2009 Ambassador Award for his outstanding representation of the college in the community.

Ruth A. Glaser '89 was promoted to chief operating officer for Scotland Health Care System.

James Wilson '89 was promoted to captain with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department.

1990s

Robin Pasquarello Diehl '90 was elected to a three-year term on the American Diabetes Association Board of Directors.

Christine Plasky Andre '93 is the 2010 Wachovia Principal of the Year for Onslow County.

James Curcuruto '93 was appointed director of industry research and analysis for the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

Joshua Poteat '93 had his second book of poetry, *Illustrating the Machine That Makes the World Work*, published by UGA Press. (photo)

Teresa Rodgers '93 is the assistant registrar at UNCW.

Jamie Barnhill '94 was featured in the Sept. 2009 issue of *Wildlife in North Carolina* magazine for his innovative methods of teaching outdoor education to his kindergarten class at Forest View Elementary School.

Tara McDonald Duckworth '94 is the parks manager for New Hanover County.

Jason Keckler '94 is a sergeant assigned as the supervisor of the Criminal Investigation Division with the Frederick, Md., Police Department where he has been employed for the past 15 years.

Greg Leimone '96 is the founder of Sentinel Consulting Group, a security and law enforcement consulting firm in High Point, N.C.

Greg Wahl '96 is a biologist with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers working on National Environment Protection Act projects in Charleston, S.C.

Michael Barron '97M is the director of business development at Eurofins AvTech Laboratories in Portage, Mich.

Kristian D. '97 and **Kim Owens Forslin '97** announce the birth of a daughter, Erin Caroline, on July 28, 2009.

Holly E. Minges '97 and Andrew Nicholson were married May 16, 2009. Holly is the education coordinator for the International Erosion Control Association in Denver, Colo. (photo)

James M. Wilburn IV '97 is a project manager in the environmental sciences group at RETTEW. He is a member of the American Institute of Professional Geologists and the Geological Society of America. (photo)

Amie Williams '97, '99M is a historical interpreter with the North Carolina Maritime Museum in Southport.

Thomas C. Hall '98, '06M is the office manager for CommunityONE. He is president of the Civitan Club of Rockingham and serves on the Richmond County Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

Robert C. Pierce '98 and Laney Hawes were married Oct. 24, 2009. Robert is the president of RCP Construction.

Catherine B. Tillman '98 and Andre Brown were married Aug. 8, 2009. Catherine is a commercial developer for Commercial Properties Inc. in Raleigh.

Alecia Bell Vanderhaar '98 and **Jamey Graves '00** had leading roles in the Thalian Hall Association musical production of "Phantom."

Jonathan D. Auten '99 and his wife Sheli announce the birth of a son, Dylan Emerson, on Oct. 26, 2009. Jonathan was promoted to lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps. He is in his second year of residency at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego.

Jennifer Davis Hall '99 and her husband Deric announce the birth of a son, Caleb Bryce, on May 8, 2009. Jennifer is a kindergarten teacher in Davidson County. (photo)

Kelly E. Michael '99 and **Ian K. Vaughn '99** were married Aug. 30, 2009. Kelly is a clinical manager at PPD, and Ian is a real estate broker at Intracoastal Realty.

Carrie E. Trutt '99 and Chris Slaughter were married Oct. 11, 2009. Carrie is the sociology department business manager at Duke University.

2000s

Katie Dozier Barakat '00 and her husband Bilal announce the birth of a son, Bailey, on Sept. 19, 2009. She is a writer for Nielsen AIG in New York City. She does freelance writing for the *Miami Herald* and is working on the novel she started while in graduate school at the University of Miami, Florida.

Michael Cochrane '00 and his wife Allison announce the birth of twin girls, Lily and Caroline, on Oct. 16, 2009. Michael is employed by Sharp-Carter Corp.

The poem "An Involuntary Intimate" by **Claudette Cohen '00M** won first prize in the *Encore Magazine* fiction writing contest. Her poem "The Lightning Rod Salesman" appeared in the spring 2010 issue of *storySouth* under the pen name Claude Limoges. She is the author of *The Seasoning of Rebecca* and her Website is claudelimoges.blogspot.com

Patrick H. Gunn '00, '05M is the vice president and senior technical designer for Citigroup in Atlanta.

The Long Division by **Derek Nikitas '00M** was published by Minotaur Books.

David Allison '01 is vice president and founding partner at Allison Investment Management, LLC.

Anne Clinard Barnhill '01M is the author of *What You Long For: Stories*.

George Bishop '01M of New Orleans had his first novel, *Letter to My Daughter*, published in February 2010 by Ballantine. His Website is www.georgebishopjr.com.

Tiffany Calhoun Daniel '01 is a clinical data manager with PPD Inc. and resides in Charlotte.

Martin Jarmond '01 is the associate athletic director of development at Ohio State University.

Jocelynn Bryant Harrington '02 is an English instructor, GED/AHS instructor and Writing Lab tutor at Coastal Carolina Community College.

Kristin M. Garner '02 and Scott Callison were married June 14, 2009. Kristin is a first grade teacher in Davie County.

Tate Johnson '03, '06M was appointed as Gov. Beverly Perdue's director of Eastern North Carolina for the governor's office in New Bern.

Jessie H. Nunery '03 is the sports editor for the *Rocky Mount Telegram*.

Belinda F. Simmons '03 is a first grade teacher at Town Creek Elementary School in Brunswick County.

Director of internships and career services at North Carolina Wesleyan College, **Jessie Warren '03** was appointed by Gov. Beverly Perdue to the North Carolina Internship Council. (photo)

Jennifer Strickland Williams '03M is one of five North Carolina teachers to receive a \$175,000 Career Awards for Science and Mathematics Teachers grant, recognizing her for demonstrated knowledge in science and outstanding performance in educating children. A science teacher at Brevard High School, Williams is co-director of the research program "It's about TIME to do real science," a summer/after-school program for high school students. She co-wrote the Burroughs Wellcome Fund Student Science enrichment Program grant and presented the program to the National Science Teachers Association meeting. She was selected as Transylvania County Scholars' Most Memorable Teacher in 2009 and 2009.

Jessica L. Riffle '04 and George Edwards, Jr. were married Dec. 5, 2009. Jessica is a real estate broker with Coldwell Banker Sea Coast Realty and was named one of the Top 12 Women Real Estate Bloggers for 2009. Her blog was also featured on NBC's Today Show in October 2009. www.HotPropertyBlog.com

Meghann Lambeth Barberousse '05 graduated from UNC Pembroke with a Master of Education degree in school counseling. She is a counselor with Richmond County Schools in Rockingham.

Lies of the Heart by **Michelle Boyajian '05M** was published by Viking Press.

Cheimi S. Glazener '05, '08M is the fiscal operations clerk for the Town of Holden Beach.

Andrew Luther '05 is the owner of Andrew Luther & Associates, a contract furniture representative company that sells to schools and government agencies in both North and South Carolina, including UNCW. His wife, **Heather MacKenzie Luther '05**, is a data manager with New Hanover County Schools.

Meg Nuzzi '05 and Eric Nygren were married Oct. 10, 2009. Meg is the administrative assistant for the Highfill Infrastructure Engineering, PC in Wilmington.

Heather L. Smith '05 and **Roger L. Cooke II '04** were married Oct. 10, 2009. Roger is an instructor at U.S. Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, and is pursuing a master's degree in international relations. Heather is a clinical research associate at PPD Inc. and is pursuing a Master of Business Administration degree. (photo)

Sterling Cook '06 is a financial advisor associate with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney in Charlotte.

David B. Dearie '06 and Lindsay Fisher were married Oct. 10, 2009. David is pursuing a doctor of pharmacy degree at the UNC Chapel Hill Eschelman School of Pharmacy.

Nina de Gramont '06M is the author of *Every Little Thing in the World*, published in March 2010 by Atheneum, the young-adult imprint of Simon and Schuster.

Gareth Evans '06M is the executive director at the Bellamy Mansion.

We Call This Thing Between Us Love by **Jason Mott '06, '08M** was published by Main Street Rag. penandcape.com

Cassie Stroup '06 is a ticket sales associate for the Altoona Curve minor league baseball team in Pennsylvania.

Angela Throckmorton '06 and **William Klinger '05** were married Aug. 8, 2009. William is a clinical data associate at PPD.

Rebecca J. Bralley '07 and Capt. Walker Gorham were married June 13, 2009. Rebecca is a Spanish teacher at Topsail High School.

Christopher J. Dow '07 and Jamie Holmes were married Dec. 12, 2009. He teaches fourth grade at Richland School District Two in Columbia, S.C.

Katie Gurgainis '07 is an account executive with the Account Management Department at Howard, Merrell & Partners. She serves on the ADDY awards and public service announcement committees for the American Advertising Federation of the Triangle.

Cory Gates '08 was promoted to a senior level business services officer for BB&T of Bradley County.

Steven McMurray '08M received the Distinguished Master's Thesis Award in Life Sciences at the 2010 annual meeting of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools. He is employed by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service.

Nathan Snell '08 is the internet marketing director for Talk Inc.

Philip K. Fields '09 is a teacher at Bagabag National High School with the U.S. Peace Corps in Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya, in the Philippines.

Laura Reid '09 is pursuing an M.B.A. in cultural material conservation at the University of Melbourne in Australia.

Alison R. Walton '09 and Donald Riggs Jr. were married June 19, 2009. Alison is a homeowner liaison for Emerald Isle Realty Inc.

Friends

Janice Gurganus, '88, died Nov. 19, 2009. Janice was the first bursar of Wilmington College in 1948.



John Jay Burney Jr. and J. Marshall Crews, leaders who shaped and guided Wilmington College and UNCW, both passed away in April, but their legacies of dedication and service will long be remembered on the UNCW campus.

“They deeply and profoundly cared about our university and the Cape Fear community, and they diligently worked throughout their lives to make UNCW and the region we serve as strong and successful as possible,” said Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo.

Burney, a Wilmington native, was a decorated veteran of World War II, attorney, state senator, civic leader and UNCW advocate. As a member of the N.C. General Assembly from 1967 to 1972, he introduced the bill that authorized Wilmington College to become part of the University of North Carolina in 1969.

“Burney shepherded the process of moving Wilmington College into the University of North Carolina system by joining forces with the political leadership in the western part of the state to jointly move Asheville-Biltmore College and Wilmington College into the UNC system on the same bill,” Ty Rowell, assistant to the chancellor, remembered.

Burney served on the UNCW Board of Trustees and was chair from 1982 to 1984. The UNCW Alumni Association presented Burney with its Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award in 1995. Burney Center, UNCW’s state-of-the-art campus meeting facility, is named in his honor.

Generations of alumni, faculty and staff respect and admire J. Marshall Crews, professor emeritus of mathematics, who was 90 when he died. During his 33-year academic career, he was a mathematics professor, registrar, dean of students, academic dean and director of admissions. He also wrote *From These Beginnings*, the definitive history of Wilmington College.

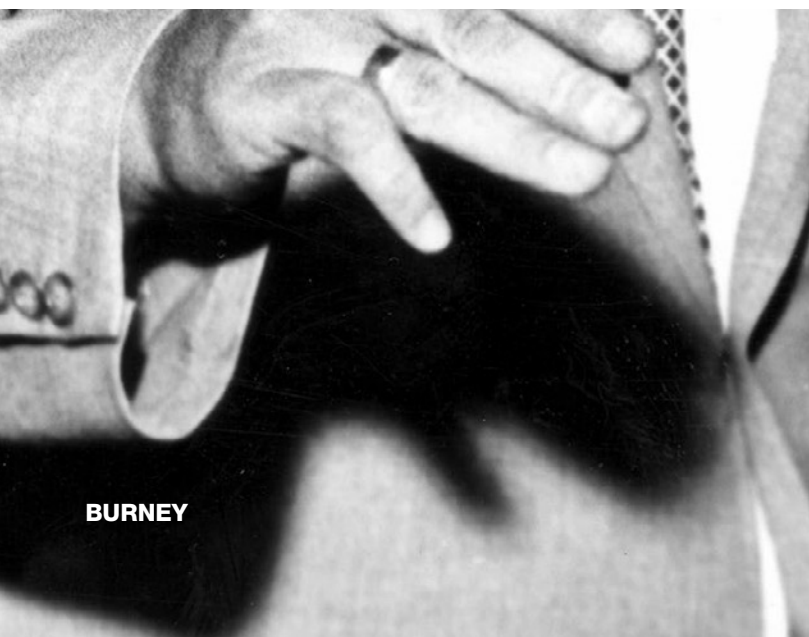
“He was truly an extraordinary educator and individual,” the chancellor said.

Crews was a founding member of the Order of Isaac Bear, which honors those individuals who taught at the original Isaac Bear Building or who contributed great service to the university. He was instrumental in arranging for an historical marker for Wilmington College on Market Street where the original campus was located.

“Crews was paternal in his feelings about the university and was intent that we not forget our roots,” Rowell said.

To honor Crews, UNCW has named a science scholarship, a distinguished faculty award and a street for him. He received the alumni association’s Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award in 2006.

Remembering two legendary leaders



BURNEY



CREWS

Photos courtesy UNCW Archives

FOR RACHEL COWAN '00,
LIFE IS
THERE IS ALWAYS
NOT A
SOMETHING TO LEARN
SPEC
SOMETHING TO TRY
TATOR
SOMETHING TO DO
SPORT





Photo courtesy Rachel Cowan

Her latest challenge was a seven-day, 620-mile bicycle ride along the California coastline from San Francisco to San Diego. As the first quadriplegic woman to participate, Cowan thought it was an amazing opportunity for personal growth, while facing her fears of not asking for help.

When Cowan was a senior in high school, she was in a car accident that broke her neck and left her paralyzed. However, she remains independent, lives alone, drives and has a full-time job as a post-doctoral fellow with the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis at the University of Miami School of Medicine.

"For me, the option of sitting home not learning and growing doesn't appeal to me," Cowan said.

The UNCW alumna was one of 100 riders to participate in the Qualcomm Million Dollar Challenge in October. Each participant was required to raise \$10,000 for the Challenged Athlete's Foundation which provides hand cycles, racing chairs, sports chairs and sports prosthetics for challenged athletes. She exceeded that, raising a total of \$17,000.

When she signed up for the race, Cowan didn't own a bike and had to train indoors, on rollers. She participated in a 20-week training program.

"For long Sunday rides, most people had a community of people to train with them, but since I'm not from the area, I had myself. I was indoors training alone many Saturdays and Sundays. There were points in time where I had a four-hour ride inside, only with my radio. It took a lot of mental strength to train that many hours alone," she said.

When race time came, there were parts of the challenge that were too difficult for Cowan to complete.

"How do you resolve doing your best, and you come up short? Imagine falling short in front of wonderful new people after you've worked hard all summer, went to bed early every night, and sacrificed so much. I gave up going out, and committed a lot of time to the challenge. After all the work that goes into the event to show up, and not come up to par with everyone is frustrating," explained Cowan.

The people around her were really supportive and told her she was being too hard on herself, because there were parts of the challenge that other riders struggled with as well.

Cowan learned from the experience. "If I had waited until I had the time to do the event, I wouldn't have done it. If you wait until everything is lined up to do something, you never get around to doing it. When things don't turn out as you planned, it can still be a wonderful experience. I have so many amazing memories and saw so much beautiful scenery. The experience now helps me manage my time more carefully."

Cowan, who has a master's degree in health and exercise science from Wake Forest University and a doctorate in rehabilitation science and technology from the University of Pittsburgh, recently received the Fritz Krauth Memorial Fellowship for her new grant funded by the Paralyzed Veterans of America Research Foundation.

She was featured in the February edition of *Paraplegia News* and traveled to Orlando, Fla., on Feb. 16 to receive a plaque in honor of her award. She also was invited to speak about her research findings in February at the International Collaboration on Repair Discoveries annual general meeting in Vancouver, Canada, and in September at the Academy of Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Professionals annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nev.

Cowan's grant is titled "Barriers and Participation after SCI: Relationship with Fitness and Mobility." It is known that manual wheelchair users commonly report poor fitness and the physical environment as barriers to achieving their desired level of participation in the community. She hypothesizes that a person's fitness and wheelchair self-propulsion ability are related to their participation, view of the environment as a barrier and choices to avoid environmental barriers (such as curbs or ramps). Her long-term research goal is to facilitate participation by improving fitness and/or self-propulsion capacity, thereby enabling persons with SCI to independently navigate environmental features which were previously unconquerable.

by LaTacheé Howard '10



making a difference

by Nicole Doherty '10

Driven by a dream to make a true difference in the world, **Roey Rosenblith '06** has taken a dramatic approach to doing so. He is living and working in Kampala, Uganda, where he is the co-founder of the renewable energy company Village Energy.

He first began his work with renewable energy while a student at UNCW. During an independent study with Christopher Halkides, assistant professor of chemistry, he built a homemade biodiesel reactor. This creation led Rosenblith to become the co-founder of Cape Fear Biofuels in the spring of 2005.

Following graduation, Rosenblith began to learn how he could really make his dream a reality.

"After working in Africa with the NGO (non-governmental organization) sector, I become fairly disillusioned with the practice of trying to help the developing world by begging for money and then, in essence, giving it away."

Rosenblith said reading several books on the topic gave him a new idea of what he could do.

"All these giveaways have had a really destructive effect on the developing world in general, and on Africa in particular. Consequently, I decided that instead of starting one more charity claiming that the world would be saved if you donated to them, I would start an energy company that met a market gap," he said. "Our goal, like many other social enterprises is to 'do well and do good.'"

This vision led to the establishment of Village Energy in Uganda.

Rosenblith is working to provide renewable energy to millions of people throughout Uganda. Village Energy's solar lighting systems eliminate the need for the expensive and dangerous kerosene lamps that most households use. This can reduce the amount of money the average family spends on energy from nearly 20 percent to 4 percent of their annual income, freeing money for food, school fees, crops, fertilizer and even starting a business.

One of Rosenblith former mentors at UNCW, Don Habibi, professor of philosophy and religion, describes Roey as inquisitive, bold and intellectually curious. Habibi once gave him a dollar bill to give to someone in need, thereby protecting him during his travels, a practice known as shalach mitzvah. Rosenblith gave it to a man in Uganda whose son had his name. This act may have kept him safer longer than originally anticipated. On Dec. 25, 2009, Rosenblith was on NW Flight 253 that was hijacked by a terrorist. The attempt to bring the plane down was unsuccessful and no one was hurt.

Rosenblith is continuing to work hard to make a difference in the world, starting with Uganda. His work is touching many lives and inspiring many others.





Photos courtesy Roey Rosenblith

Professor Don Habibi's comment sums up a general feeling about Rosenblith, "If there were another 30 or 40 of him, that would be great."

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Calendar

University and Alumni

June

- 16 Wilmington College Luncheon
- 23 Summer Session II Begins
- 24 Cameron School of Business Alumni Chapter Speaker Breakfast Series with Bob Rippy

July

- 5 Independence Day • UNCW Offices Closed
- 21 Wilmington College Luncheon
- TBD Cape Fear Area Alumni Chapter Alumni After Work: Summer Edition

August

- 14 Freshman Move-In
- 14-18 UNCW Welcome Week
- 16 Convocation
- 18 Classes Begin
- 18 Wilmington College Luncheon
- 20 Music at Mayfaire with The School Boys
- TBD Triangle Area Alumni Chapter Durham Bulls Game

September

- 2 Fall Faculty Meeting
- 6 Labor Day • UNCW Offices Closed
- 15 Wilmington College Luncheon
- TBD Triad Area Alumni Chapter Fall Dinner Meeting
- TBD Cape Fear Area Alumni Chapter Alumni After Work: Fall Edition

October

- 2-5 Fall Break
- 15-17 Family and Alumni Weekend www.uncw.edu/alumni/FAW.htm
 - 15 Wine and Cheese Welcome Reception • 6 p.m. Burney Center
 - Midnight Madness • 9 p.m. Trask Coliseum
 - 16 Golden Wing Society Reunion • Classes of 1949-60
 - 10:30 a.m. Brunch Madeline Suite
 - 11:30 a.m. Guided Trolley Tour of Campus
 - UNCW Past, Present & Future with Ty Rowell • 2 p.m. Randall Library
 - Legacy Pinning Ceremony • 4 p.m. Burney Center
 - Young Alumni Reunion • Classes of 2000-10 • 7 p.m. Burney Center
- 20 Wilmington College Luncheon
- TBD Watson School of Education Alumni Chapter Fall Dinner Meeting
- TBD Triad Area Alumni Chapter Fall Dinner Meeting

November

- TBD Charlotte Area Alumni Chapter Interest Dinner Meeting
- TBD Cape Fear Area Alumni Chapter TEALgate
- 29 Washington DC Area Alumni Pregame Social (UNCW v. George Washington University)

For more information about alumni events visit online at www.uncw.edu/alumni.events.

Facebook • Twitter • LinkedIn • Alumni Blog • Flickr • YouTube

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() News/promotion/honors () Wedding () Birth () Address change

Name _____
First Middle Last Maiden

Class year _____ () Bachelor's degree () Master's degree Major _____

Spouse _____
First Middle Last Maiden

UNCW graduate () No () Yes Class year/degree/major _____

Street address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Phone (H) _____ Phone (W) _____ E-mail _____

Employer _____ Position _____

Spouse's employer (if UNCW grad) _____ Position _____

News/promotion/honors _____

Marriage: Date of marriage _____ (Do not send prior to marriage)

Birth: () Son () Daughter Child's name _____ Date of birth _____

tolling in a new era

Ten years ago, the Class of 2000 led the campaign to raise funds for a 60-foot clock tower for the center of campus. Students, alumni, staff, faculty, the university and community members and businesses contributed a total of \$150,000 to make this monumental task a reality.

The UNCW Millennium Clock Tower was erected on May 11, 2000, and the next day was dedicated and sounded for the first time at the senior celebration. Today, the clock tower is a university landmark that plays a significant role of important institutional events such as the annual Trask Trek during freshman convocation and memorial programs of all sorts. A 20th anniversary celebration is planned for family and alumni weekend in October.

clock tower ticks

11 tons

60 feet tall from base to finial

Made by Verdin Co. of Cincinnati, Ohio

Four six-foot clock faces

Students contributed \$92,000 of total \$150,000 cost

Alma mater and fight song sound at noon and 5 p.m. daily

Westminster chimes toll on the hour and half hour

Clocktower multimedia gallery – www.uncw.edu/marketingcommunications/gallery/2010clock_tower_anniversary

